

Ministry of Rural Affairs

Ministère des Affaires rurales

Office of the Minister

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Ontario

His Worship George Finch
Mayor
Municipality of South Huron
gfinch@southhuron.ca

Dear Mayor Finch:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and your delegation during this year's ROMA Conference. As we implement our province's Rural Strategy, these discussions about the opportunities and challenges existing in rural Ontario communities are more important than ever.

During our 2024 consultations, the message to us was clear – we need to continue to connect directly with you, to better understand your challenges and needs. Ontario cannot be at its best without our thriving rural communities. Our government's commitment to you is to do exactly that.

As you pointed out, construction projects affect the whole community and can especially impact small businesses when they are occurring in main street areas. I also heard your concerns with the need for more certainty regarding economic development funding.

The modernized Rural Ontario Development program may be able to assist. Additional details about this program will be available in the coming weeks and I encourage you to work with Serena Viola, Economic and Business Advisor for your area, when the intake opens. She can be contacted at serena.viola@ontario.ca or 519-358-3985.

Thank you again for your commitment to continue working together. This is our time in rural Ontario!

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Rural Affairs

c: Serena Viola, Ministry of Rural Affairs

Keep up
the great
work in
South Huron!